

101 Re PCT/PTO 19 SEP 2000 5/A

09/554793 PATENT 11/28/00

Docket No. RDID 0043 US

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Volker Zimmer

Application No.: 09/554,793

Group No.: To Be Assigned

Filed: May 19, 2000

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For: Capillary Active Test Element Having An Intermediate Layer Situated Between The Support And The Covering

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the above-referenced application:

IN THE CLAIMSPlease cancel claims ~~1~~, ~~6~~ and ~~8~~ without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

Please amend claims 2-4 and 7 as follows:

- A'
2. (Amended) Device as claimed in claim [1] 9, wherein at least two notches are located next to one another.
  3. (Amended) Device as claimed in claim [1] 9, wherein notches are staggered on opposite sides.
  4. (Amended) Device as claimed in [one of the claims 1 to 3] 9, wherein at least one of the surfaces forming the inner surface of the channel capable of capillary liquid transport is hydrophilized.